



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Special assassination evening performances, exhibits scheduled April 14 at Lincoln Presidential Museum

SPRINGFIELD – An evening of performances and special exhibits will be featured on Thursday, April 14, the 146th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's assassination, at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum in downtown Springfield. The event costs \$10 per person and includes coffee and cake served between the performances. Reservations may be made by calling (217) 558-8934.

The evening will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a performance in the Union Theater of the popular drama "One Destiny." Richard Helleesen's 35-minute play, which premiered four years ago at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C., takes place in the days after the assassination of President Lincoln in April 1865. Harry Hawk – the actor who was performing onstage when the president was shot – revisits the night of April 14 with Harry Ford, the theater's manager. Ed MacMurdo plays Harry Hawk and Patrick Russell plays Harry Ford.

During the intermission before the evening's other performance, visitors may enjoy refreshments and see several assassination-related original artifacts specially brought out only for the April 14 event. These items, in the Museum's Treasures Gallery, include a blood-stained piece of the dress worn onstage by actress Laura Keane the night Lincoln was shot; Lincoln's cufflink with a Gothic 'L' design; his handkerchief of Irish linen; and a piece of the dress Mary Lincoln wore that night. The Museum's temporary exhibit, "Team of Rivals," will also be open for viewing. Other items on view over the last two years will also be viewable that night – Lincoln's blood-stained gloves, and Mary's blood-stained fan.

The evening will conclude with an 8 p.m. dramatic reading from the Doris Kearns Goodwin book *Team of Rivals*, specifically the sections dealing with the end of the Civil War and the Lincoln assassination. The readers include Karl Bockemeier, Tim Crawford, Patricia

James-Davis, Robert Davis, Nancy Diefenback, David Farrell, Pat Foster, Kathryn Harris, Terry Jones, Johnny Molson, and Cynda Wrightsman.

For more information about programs and performances at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum, visit www.presidentlincoln.org.

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